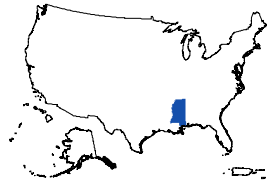


# 2000 Forestry Incentives Program



## Customer Focus—

Mr. Emanuel Tillman is 96 years young and still planning for the future. He is a life-long resident of Franklin County, the father of six children and many grandchildren, and has always planned ahead. "Planting trees will help them in the future and will take care of the land," he said. This land is the same land that took care of the Tillman family when Mr. Tillman was farming. He still maintains part of his acreage in pasture for a few cows.

Mr. Tillman knows the importance of timber to Franklin County, having moved there in 1923 to work a team of oxen used to deliver wood to the local sawmill. As he sees it, planting trees is a way to ensure the Franklin County timber supply, take care of his family, and take care of the land.

## Mississippi Summary

### Overview

The Forestry Incentives Program (FIP) continues to grow in Mississippi. This past year, nearly 900 landowners requested funding assistance, which totaled \$1,560,560. The Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) in Mississippi approved funding for 673 landowners on 21,855 acres totaling \$1,031,498.

### Accomplishments

Mississippi planted over 13.6 million seedlings during the tree-planting season. Part of these contracts resulted from Emergency FIP funds allocated because of the severe drought in the state.

### Outlook

Reforestation is critically needed in Mississippi. Because of high timber prices, land being converted to forest land from agriculture and pastureland, and increased concerns about water quality and erosion control, the demand for FIP has never been higher. Mississippi could easily spend an extra \$5 million in the FIP program each year. FIP can really improve the financial outlook for low income and part time farmers. Forests make the land productive again and protect and rebuild the resource base.

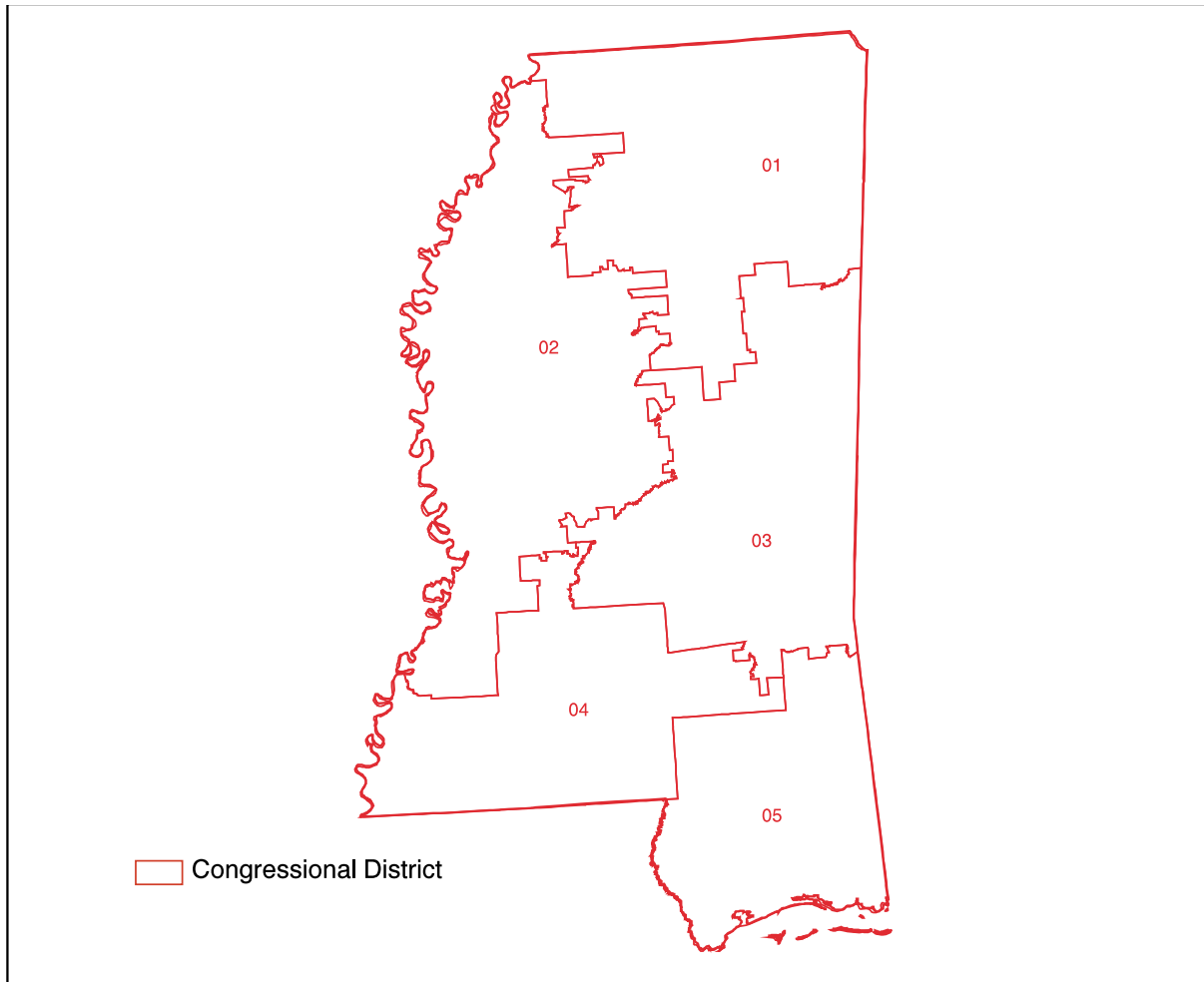
### State Contact

Alan Holditch, Forester, 601-965-5195, ext. 238



*Mr. Tillman (right) with NRCS District Conservationist Gene Bates. Mr. Tillman is pointing out where the trees will be planted.*

## Mississippi Congressional Districts



## Mississippi FIP Dollars and Contracts

Congressional Districts	Fiscal Year 2000		Cumulative Total (97-00)	
	Obligated Dollars	Number of Contracts	Obligated Dollars	Number of Contracts
District 1	\$271,996	143	\$783,586	558
District 2	95,578	71	259,667	182
District 3	340,764	215	995,672	692
District 4	245,701	182	744,003	498
District 5	77,454	64	287,959	195
<b>State Totals</b>	<b>\$1,031,493</b>	<b>675</b>	<b>\$3,070,887</b>	<b>2,125</b>

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